

**SECRET**

12 June 1967

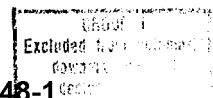
MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: 27 April 1967 Article Titled "Nuclear Plant in China" from Weekly Religious Newspaper "The Anglican" Published in Sydney, Australia

The article had a by-line "By a Special Correspondent Recently Returned from China", and is quoted below in its entirety. Paragraph numbers are for subsequent reference and were not included in original article.

1. "The Chinese Atomic Energy Commission has perfected a new gas centrifuge process for separating uranium 235 and lighter isotopes from uranium.
2. "The plant where the new process is employed has been in full-scale operation for six months. I was permitted to inspect most sections of the plant which is situated in a remote Chinese Province and is completely undetectable from the air.
3. "The process has proved much more efficient than that earlier employed at the enormous gaseous diffusion plant at Lanchou, which consumes enormous amounts of electricity specially generated by a hydro-electric plant situated up-stream in a gorge of the Yellow River.
4. "Some sections of the Lanchou Plant are now redundant, and are to be closed down. The generating capacity which will then be made free is to be used for other purposes.

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5. "The new process resulted from the work of Dr. Chou Pei Yuan who was a post-graduate research scientist at the University of California at Berkeley some years ago and a colleague who took his doctorate at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

6. "Their collaborators on the theoretical side included Dr. Tsien San Tsiang and his wife, Peng Tse Fri. Dr. Tsien is a former colleague of Professor Joliot-Curie.

7. "Two further processes in large plants on which have been in operation for nearly a year are an electro-magnetic.

8. "Experimental work on a large scale is still proceeding on an electromagnetic process. A plutonium-producing process, however, is stated to have been in full operation for nearly a year. I did not see this plant.

9. "A new plutonium-producing process, however, has been in full operation for nearly a year in a 1,500 million watt reactor in another concealed and remote area. This process is fundamentally different from that used in the three old reactors near Paotaw, Inner Mongolia.

10. "I was not able to see the new plutonium plant. However, it was stated that its production is sufficient now for the manufacture of enough enriched uranium to make several fusion type bombs each year. The first such bomb is expected to be tested this year, and certainly before the end of 1968.

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11. "The 'cultural revolution' has had no effect on rocket development work, some of which I was able to see in Western Kansu, near Chiuchan. The major part of the experimental work, however, is carried on in an even more remote area to the northwest, under the direction of Dr. Chien Wei Chang, who trained at the California Institute of Technology, Dr. Wei Chung Hua, who trained at MIT, Dr. Chien Huseh Shen and Dr. T. Y. Shao, who returned only last year from Russia.

"FEAR OF U.S.A.

12. "The discovery of the new uranium ore deposits in 1965, together with concentrations of other minerals which had previously to be imported, makes China now wholly self-supporting and self-contained in the nuclear field.

13. "The Advanced Institute of Theoretical Physics and Mathematics has been completely untouched by the 'cultural revolution'. It is now under Army control.

14. "The justification given on all sides for the diversion of so much of the national income to nuclear research falls into two categories. The first is that much of the research and work being done will increase electricity generating capacity and provide the increasing amounts of power demanded by industry.

15. "The major reason given, however, is fear of an attack with nuclear weapons by the Americans, the need to have a ready reply, and the national refusal to bend to 'nuclear blackmail'.

16. "Rightly or wrongly, the fear of America is widespread and deep. It is reflected not only in the controlled newspapers, but even in technical journals."

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TOP SECRET

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( SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF ATTACHED MATERIAL SHOULD BE CIRCLED TOP AND BOTTOM )

## ACTION SHEET

DATE REC'D IN IC

IC #

DESCRIPTION OF ATTACHED MATERIAL:

TYPE OF MATERIAL

DATED

FROM

TO

SUBJECT

DELIVERED TO

DEADLINE DATE

FOLLOW-UP DATE

13 June

## DIVISION ROUTING

TO

DATE

ACTION REQUIRED

INIT.

COMMENTS\*

1. A/C/AED

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

Please prepare  
short "memo for  
Record" commenting  
on attached.

INSTRUCTIONS: Under each comment a line should be drawn across sheet and each comment numbered to correspond with the number in the "TO" Column.

\* If comments bear a higher classification than the attached material, the security classification of this sheet be changed.

SENDER WILL CHECK CLASSIFICATION			
UNCLASSIFIED	CONFIDENTIAL	SECRET	

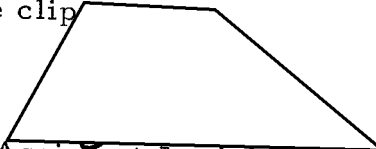
**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP**

TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	D/SI 6F20		
2			
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>ACTION</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>DIRECT REPLY</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>PREPARE REPLY</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>APPROVAL</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>DISPATCH</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>COMMENT</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>FILE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>RETURN</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>CONCURRENCE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>INFORMATION</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>SIGNATURE</b>

**Remarks:**

One of the JCAE members has asked the staff to get our reactions to the attached. Would you have one of your people look at it and give me some suggestions for a verbal reply. Please return the clip

  
 Assistant Legislative Counsel

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**FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.**

**DATE**

OLC 6D0109

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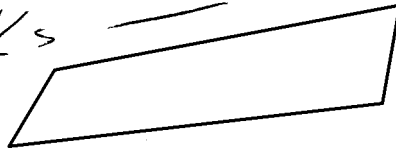
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Remarks:

*Would appreciate if it you  
would let Chuck Reichardt  
know of SCAT interest &  
what you pass on —*

*Thanks*



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